

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 DODE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00

ERDA-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 SSO-00 /030 W

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O R 151320Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 997

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BELFAST 259

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS

SUBJECT: PLANS BY HM CUSTOMS TO IMPOSE HIGHER DUTY

RATES ON PARTIALLY AMERICAN OWNED NORTHERN IRELAND FIRM.

1. NORMAN SALKIND OF IAL LTD. A FIRM PARTIALLY BRITISH OWNED BUT WITH A 15 PERCENT SHARE HELD BY DECISION DATA COMPUTER CORP. OF HORSHAM PENN. HAS INFORMED AMCONSUL THAT HIS COMPANY HAS BEEN NOTIFIED BY H.M. CUSTOMS THAT THE PRICES SHOWN ON THE U.S. BILLS OF LADING TO IAL ON AMERICAN MADE COMPUTER PARTS ASSEMBLED IN NORTHERN IRELAND BY HIS FIRM ARE IN THE OPINION OF H.M. CUSTOMS CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN WOULD BE CHARGED TO OTHER FIRMS. IN CONSEQUENCE H.M. CUSTOMS INTENDS TO IMPOSE DUTY ON THESE PARTS BASED UPON A VALUATION DOUBLE THAT OF THE ONE SHOWN ON THE BILLS OF LADING.

2. SALKIND STATED THAT THE PARTS ARE PURCHASED ON BEHALF OF IAL BY DECISION DATA, THE AMERICAN BASED FIRM, AND SIMPLY RESHIPPIED TO IAL WITH DECISION DATA ADDING A 2 PERCENT HANDLING CHARGE. HE CONTENDS THAT THE PRICES CHARGED TO DEVISION DATA AND PASSED ON TO IAL ARE NO HIGHER THAN WOULD BE CHARGED TO ANY OTHER FIRM.

3. MR. SALKIND HAS REQUESTED GUIDANCE FROM AMCONSUL CONCERNING THE EXACT PROVISIONS OF PRICING OF THE ROBINSON-PATMAN ACT OR OTHER APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION. HE BELIEVES THAT THESE PROVISIONS MAKE IT ILLEGAL FOR A FIRM TO IMPOSE ONE SET OF

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PRICES FOR A GIVEN FIRM AND THEN SELL TO ANOTHER FIRM AT A

HIGHER RATE. MR. SALKIND WISHES TO QUOTE THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT TO H.M. CUSTOMS TO BOLSTER HIS CONTENTION THAT THE CHARGES SHOWN ON THE BILLS OF LADING ARE INDEED THE ONES WHICH WOULD BE CHARGED TO OTHER FIRMS IN THE SAME POSITION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WHILE IT IS NOT OUR PLACE TO GIVE MR. SALKIND LEGAL ADVICE IN THIS MATTER, IF APPROPRIATE, WE WOULD LIKE TO FURNISH HIM WITH PERTINENT CITATIONS FROM THE ROBINSON-PATMAN ACT AND REQUEST THAT INFORMATION AS WELL AS ANY OTHER GUIDANCE THAT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO THE CASE BE PROVIDED ASAP.  
ROY

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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